

While most Americans are familiar with political activist Bella Abzug, few know about the accomplishments of anthropologist Barbara Myerhoff and Canadian Olympic athlete Bobbie Rosenfeld. All three women are featured in the year 2000 Women of Valor educational poster series produced by the Jewish Women's Archive. In Boston, institutions such as Temple Israel, the Leventhal Sidman JCC, Harvard Hillel and dozens of other places will display the posters throughout Women's History Month and conduct programs highlighting the important role women have played in history. The posters are complemented by a workbook featuring a biography of each Woman of Valor, worksheets and suggested educational activities. In addition, individuals can learn more through an interactive multimedia Women of Valor exhibit on the Jewish Women's Archive website at [www.jwa.org](http://www.jwa.org). The unique and innovative exhibit includes speeches, photographs, news clips, letters and film clips from archives and libraries throughout the country.

"History teaches us about who we are and where we have been," said Gail Twersky Reimer, Executive Director of the Jewish Women's Archive. "For too long, the contributions of Jewish women have been ignored. Each in her own way, Bella Abzug, Barbara Myerhoff and Bobbie Rosenfeld changed our world. Understanding their work and recognizing their contributions enriches and completes our knowledge about the past."

The Women of Valor poster series was created to increase awareness of, and interest in, women's history and to stimulate the development of programs that celebrate the lives of Jewish women, past and present. The posters portray their subjects in pictures and narrative, using each woman's own words to create a compelling picture of her achievements and the times in which she lived. Women of Valor posters and accompanying educational materials have been sent to more than 8,000 institutions and organizations throughout the United States and Canada.

Created in partnership with MIT's Center for Educational and Computing Initiatives, the Jewish Women's Archive website is the cornerstone of the Archive itself. It includes interactive multimedia exhibits, an on-line database and resources on North American Jewish women. This unique and invaluable research tool is the first stage in the development of a searchable Internet directory of all source materials on Jewish women available in repositories throughout the United States and Canada.

Now in its third year, the Women of Valor Project is funded by grants from the Covenant Foundation, Righteous Persons Foundation and the Dobkin Foundation. In previous years, the project has featured Glikl of Hamelin, Rose Schneideman and Henrietta Szold (1997); Rebecca Gratz, Lillian Wald and Molly Picon (1998); and Emma Lazarus, Justine Wise Polier and Hannah Greenbaum Solomon (1999). Women's History Month was designated by the United States Congress in 1987 to raise awareness among students and adults, female and male, of the many and diverse accomplishments women have made throughout history.

The Jewish Women's Archive was founded in 1995 to uncover, chronicle and transmit the historical record of Jewish women's lives—their impact on Jewish culture and their active participation in society at large.

One of our nation's leading political activists, Bella Abzug (1920–1998) was a civil rights and labor attorney, a U.S. Congresswoman,

and an international women's rights activist. As an attorney Abzug mounted an appeal on behalf of an African American man sentenced to death on groundless charges of raping a white woman, and defended numerous clients during the infamous "with hunts" instigated by Senator Joseph McCarthy. In Congress, she promoted an agenda focused on social and economic justice. After leaving Congress, Abzug continued to champion women's and civil rights. She presided over the first National Women's Conference in 1977 and worked with other women to found some of the leading feminist organizations of our day.

Barbara Myerhoff's (1935–1985) groundbreaking research into American Jewry, their lives, culture and religion initiated a sea change in the field of anthropology, leading other anthropologists to expand from studying exotic communities in foreign countries to studying communities in their "own backyards." Her work affected not only her fellow anthropologists, but also helped a broad audience of men and women understand the importance of storytelling to their own lives. A creative and renowned professor and anthropologist, Myerhoff won an Oscar for her film *Number Our Days*, based on her 1979 book by the same name.

One of Canada's most outstanding athletes, male or female, Bobbie Rosenfeld (1904–1969) championed women's sports both on and off the field. As a competitor in the first Olympic Games to include women in 1928, Rosenfeld led her team to a gold medal in the 400-meter relay and a silver medal in the 100 meter. Despite bouts of severe arthritis, Rosenfeld led her softball league in home runs and was voted outstanding women hockey player in Ontario in 1931. When her arthritis became too severe for her to compete, Rosenfeld began coaching track and softball and eventually became a sports columnist for the *Toronto Globe and Mail*.

#### IN MEMORY OF THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD HEALEY

#### HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2000*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the memory of State Representative Edward Healey, who passed away on March 15, 2000, at the age of 75. It is with a tremendous feeling of sadness that I speak in his honor: Florida has lost an outstanding leader who may never be replaced.

While Edward was born in Elmhurst, New York, he began his long-term affiliation with the State of Florida after moving to the area in 1957. Though he was not a lifelong resident, few have done more to serve the citizens of Palm Beach County: Edward was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1974 where he served until 1980. He also served in the House from 1982 to 1984, and was elected again in 1986. Since that time, he has subsequently been re-elected to serve the Palm Springs area in each election.

In addition to his extraordinary work in the state legislature, Representative Healey made numerous contributions to the Palm Beach County community throughout his years in Florida. Edward was active in local government through his participation in the Palm

Beach County Criminal Justice Commission, the Palm Beach County Health Care Taxing District Board, and the Palm Beach County Bar Association, where he was a member of the Legislative and Local Government Liaison Committee.

Though Edward Healey's commitments were numerous, he will always be remembered as someone who completely dedicated himself to the community through his work with local and national civic groups. He was involved with a myriad of organizations throughout his life: these organizations included the Florida Wildlife Federation, the Health Care Task Force, the National Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Urban League, and Common Cause. While this list is far from complete, I am positive that every organization that Representative Healey worked with will miss his leadership and dedication in the coming years. Mr. Speaker, while Edward Healey's passing is a tremendous loss for the Palm Beach County community, I can say without hesitation that his memory will live on through the work of the many organizations to which he dedicated his life. Though we will all miss his presence, I would like to thank and praise Edward for his hard work and leadership in improving the world at large.

#### TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDRA LENNOX VAIL

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2000*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alexander "Al" Lennox Vail, a longtime friend, who passed away on January 4, 2000. He was 78. Vail was a California rancher, whose family had owned and managed Santa Rosa Island and its 54,000-acre cattle operation there for nearly a century.

Vail was born November 24, 1921 in Los Angeles, California, thirty minutes after his twin brother Russ. The two brothers grew up playing on the island that their grandfather had purchased in 1902, with partner J.V. Vickers. At just 21 years old, Vail began working full-time on Santa Rosa Island as a cowboy. In 1962, he became the general manager of the ranching operation.

Vail and his twin brother continued to manage the ranching operation, off the coast of Santa Barbara, until 1998. At that time, the last cattle were removed under an agreement to protect the island's native plants. Since 1998, the Vails and the Vickers (the Vickers are silent partners) continued to run a commercial elk and deer hunting operation on the island, which Vail managed until his sudden death.

Al will forever be remembered throughout the livestock community for his ethics and stewardship of the bounteous resources of an island that was in his family for almost 100 years.

Vail is survived by his wife, Catherine "Kay" Sutherland Vail of Santa Barbara; his daughters, Nita Vail of Sacramento and Mary Vail of

Moorpark; twin brother Russell Vail and sister Margaret Vail Woolley, and their families of Pasadena.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Alexander "Al" Lennox Vail for his dedication to the well-being of the animals and the land. Vail will be remembered by his family members and those who knew him for his integrity, honesty, and hard work. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending my condolences to the Vail family.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPION METRO STATE ROADRUNNERS

#### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2000*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the NCAA Division II National Basketball Champion Metro State Roadrunners from Denver, Colorado. The Roadrunners capped off a remarkable season with a stunning victory over Kentucky Wesleyan, last year's NCAA Division II champions, by a score of 97-79 on March 25, 2000. Metro State finished the season with a 33-4 record and bring home to Denver the State of Colorado's first NCAA national basketball championship trophy ever.

Metro State placed four players on the NCAA Elite Eight All-Tournament Team, including Most Valuable Player DeMarcos Anzures, John Bynum, Lee Barlow and Kane Oakley. It marked the first time four players from one team made the all-tournament team. In addition, Anzures, a senior who previously played for Denver's Skyview High School, was named a first team All-American and Coach Mike Dunlap was named National Coach-of-the-Year by the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

The Roadrunners finished a tremendous three-year run that includes a 86-15 record, three Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference championships and two North Central Regional titles. Although Metro State began this year with two straight losses, the Roadrunners rebounded by winning 33 of their next 35 games and doing so in a rather dominating fashion. In fact, Metro State led the nation in scoring margin by outscoring opponents by an average of 19.1 points a game, including their 18-point victory in the NCAA title game.

Members of the 1999-2000 Metro State Roadrunners include: Anzures, Bynum, Barlow, Dunlap, Michael Alcock, Rashawn Fulcher, Shane Ah Matt, Todd Gower, Jason Johnson, Patrick Mutombo, Clayton Smith, Chris Ford and Jody Hollins.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting these fine young men and Coach Dunlap for their outstanding achievement and stellar performance throughout this entire season. Congratulations to everybody associated with Metro State for bringing home this impressive championship—a victory of which all of the people of Denver and the State of Colorado can be very proud.

#### A LIFE REMEMBERED, A COMMUNITY CHANGED

#### HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2000*

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my deepest sympathies to the family of Walter A. Olson of Jefferson, Ohio.

On Saturday, March 25 at about 6:30 a.m., Walter A. Olson was gunned down just 20 feet from his own front door in a random act of violence that has shocked this small, tight-knit community to its core.

Mr. Olson, a husband, father of six, and grandfather of three, was innocently going about his morning routine on Saturday—a walk to a nearby cemetery where his mother and brother were buried. It was during this peaceful walk that Walter Olson crossed paths with a troubled, 22-year-old neighbor toting a 12-gauge, pump-action shotgun. The black trenchcoat the young man wore was bursting with ammunition and concealed a second gun. The gunman, apparently hellbent on killing anyone in his path, spotted Walter Olson and shot him dead. He then continued walking down Center Street, reloading his shotgun as if nothing had happened.

This tragic, senseless act could have led to much greater carnage had it not been for the Jefferson Police and Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department, which were quick to respond to neighbors' 9-1-1 calls. A gun battle ensued, and the gunman apparently refused to lay down his arms even after he'd been felled by officers' shots. A police dog, Cero—credited with saving the lives of other officers—dies in the line of duty after being shot by the gunman. Police struggle to find a motive for this unprovoked rage.

Mr. Speaker, all too often we hear stories of disturbed, armed people walking into schools, daycare centers, restaurants and other public settings and opening fire indiscriminately on innocent people who have the misfortune of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. We watch the wrenching reports on the evening news with horror, and our hearts and prayers go out to the families. We hug our own children a little harder, and reassure ourselves that horrors like this will never befall our own community. All that changed on Saturday in the small town of Jefferson, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, Jefferson, Ohio, is reeling in grief from the death of Walter Olson and the death of innocence of their community. The family and friends of Walter Olson have always known of his kindness, and strangers who never met him have been moved by the exemplary, humble life this religious, family man led.

Walter Olson was an Ashtabula County native, a former auxiliary police officer in Jefferson, and a member of the Jefferson Exchange Club and the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce. He'd worked for many years as a petroleum manager for Country Mark, Inc., and was working as a U.S. Census recruiter and field surveyor for Research Triangle Institute in Winston-Salem, NC, at the time of his death. He was a member of St. Joseph Calasancius Church in Jefferson, where a memorial service was held this morning. He leaves behind his wife, Mary, the manager of the local Hardee's; his children Cindy, Isaac, Randy, Angel,

Robin, and Timothy; and his grandchildren Alyssa, Lillian and Warren. Walter Olson was just 51 years old.

Remarkably, Mary Olson holds no animosity toward the neighbor who shot and killed her husband, saying she "hates that there's a child out there who needed help; that he was so sad that he felt he had to do something like this." Her words speak volumes about the power of forgiveness and the goodness of the human heart.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 19th District of Ohio, I extend prayers and condolences to the Olson family and the community of Jefferson. I have requested that a United States flag be flown over the Capitol in Walter Olson's memory.

Walter Olson's time on Earth was not nearly long enough, but we can all take comfort knowing that he lived his life fully, that he loved and was dearly loved, and that he showered others with kindness. I urge the wonderful people of Jefferson to continue to reach out to each other in this time of grief and sorrow, and to realize that it will take time for this family and this community to heal. May God bless the family of Walter Olson, the community of Jefferson, Ohio, and the United States of America.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MRS. RITA M. LEONE

#### HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2000*

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a classmate and good friend of mine at Cardinal Mooney High School, Mrs. Rita M. Leone. Her untimely death after a battle with leukemia deeply saddens me.

Rita was born on May 22, 1943 in Youngstown, Ohio to Michael and Maryann Sebest Check. She graduated from Cardinal Mooney and had been office manager and bookkeeper for the Stillson Donahay Agency for 20 years.

Rita was an active member of the Holy Family Church in Youngstown. She participated in the Altar Guild and was an integral member of Renewal Team Number 8. In addition, she served the church as a Eucharistic minister. She was also active in the Ladies Slovak Union Jednota and the Joliettes bowling team.

I want to send my sincerest condolences to her husband of 38 years, Victor Leone of Youngstown, and their lovely daughter Lisa Leone of Lakewood, Ohio. Rita was a beautiful person and I feel blessed to have been able to call her my friend.

#### HONORING REVEREND KARL VARTAN AVAKIAN

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2000*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Karl Vartan Avakian on his 20th Anniversary of Ordination and his 35th year of pastoral ministry. Reverend Avakian serves as the Minister to the Union of